

Agent Evaluation Metrics — Comprehensive One-Page Cheat Sheet

Retrieval & Discovery

Metric	What it Measures
Recall / Recall@K	Coverage of all relevant items; missing evidence detection
Precision / Precision@K	Noise level in retrieved results
Hit Rate	Whether at least one relevant item was retrieved
Coverage	Breadth of topics/domains surfaced

Ranking Quality

Metric	What it Measures
MRR	How early the first relevant result appears
NDCG	Overall ranking quality with graded relevance
MAP	Mean precision across ranking positions

Reasoning & Task Success

Metric	What it Measures
Exact Match	Perfect correctness of answer
F1 Score	Partial correctness of structured outputs
Task Success Rate	End-to-end completion of objectives
Utility Score	Practical usefulness of result

Faithfulness & Grounding

Metric	What it Measures
Citation Accuracy	Claims supported by cited sources
Groundedness	Output traceable to retrieved evidence
Hallucination Rate	Unsupported or fabricated statements

Efficiency & Cost

Metric	What it Measures
Latency	Time to complete task
Token Usage	LLM cost footprint
Tool Calls	Efficiency of action selection
Planning Steps	Overplanning or looping behavior

Human Evaluation

Metric	What it Measures
Relevance	Alignment with user intent
Coherence	Logical organization of output
Trustworthiness	User confidence in result
Preference	A/B comparison quality

Rule of thumb: agent failures are usually retrieval or ranking failures before reasoning failures.